**ITEM 2**

**MARCH 6**

**FULL DAY DISCUSSION on HUMAN RIGHTS and CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Scottish Human Rights Commission**

The Scottish Human Rights Commission (hereafter SHRC) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this discussion by highlighting collaborative progress being made by Scotland in the area of climate justice, in particular within Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP).

SHRC considers that climate justice brings an additional perspective to the climate debate by encouraging greater public participation and putting justice and equity at the heart of responses to climate change. This is why SHRC and others promoted climate justice to be included within Scotland’s National Action Plan for Human Rights.

Scotland has taken a number of steps in this area including the creation of a Climate Justice Fund to assist adaptation in sub-Saharan Africa and also what is understood to be the world’s first unanimous Parliamentary motion in support of Climate Justice. The Scottish Parliament and Government commitment to [SNAP](http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/actionplan/betterworld) ensures that they can be held to account within Scotland and beyond for taking further steps to championing climate justice in the areas of mitigation, adaptation, sharing of renewable energy technology and further development.

The stark reality is that we all need to do more, particularly as the international community prepares to shape the post-2015 development agenda. Tackling climate change and implementing a sustainable development agenda are two mutually reinforcing sides of the same coin.

SHRC calls for a greater integration of climate justice in both the Sustainable Development Goals and the international climate negotiations to culminate in Paris at the end of this year. Climate and development policies are more effective when designed with a human-centred approach.

SHRC looks forward to closely collaborating with and providing any further information on these issues to the Council.

END.